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SOURCE Newspapers and periodical as indicated.

PREPARE SHIPS FOR OPERATION ON VOLGA-DON CANAL

[Numbers in parentheses refer to appended sources.]

In February 1952, the Karpovka Pumping Station along the Volga-Don Canal will start pumping operations to fill the Karpovka water reservoir. Next, the Bereslav and Varvarovka reservoirs and then the canal channel itself will be filled, and in the midsummer the new water route will be open to navigation.(1)

New freight piers and passenger stations are being built along the entire Volga-Don navigation route. Construction of port facilities at Kalach-na-Donu, which will become one of the most important ports on the new route, has already begun.(2) There will be several large freight piers, a passenger pier, a passenger station, warehouses, and repair shops. The port will play an important role in the system of water communications between centers of the country and the upper regions of the Don. It is planned to complete the port by spring 1952.(3)

When the Volga-Don Canal is put in operation, many new water routes will be open to freight and passenger traffic. A passenger traffic schedule for ships along the new route has already been confirmed by the Ministry of River Fleet. On the Volga, Volga-Don Canal, the Tsimlyanskaya Sea, and on the Don River, three passenger lines have been established: Moscow--Rostov-na-Donu, Stalingrad--Rostov-na-Donu, Stalingrad-Kalach. The longest of these routes, Moscow to Rostov-na-Donu, is more than 3,000 kilometers long. It will take 24 days to travel this route in both directions. Passenger ships will be dispatched once every 3 days from Moscow and Rostov-na-Donu.

Six passenger steamships will ply the Stalingrad--Rostov-na-Donu route. The trip from Stalingrad along the Volga and Volga-Don Canal to Kalach at the start of the Tsimlyanskaya Sea and return will take 3 days.

Captains of ships assigned to these new navigation routes have gone to the canal site to study the new water route.(4)

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Enterprises of the Ministry of River Fleet are busy re-equipping many steam and diesel ships for operation on the Volga-Don Canal and along the water routes created by the opening of this new waterway. These ships must be capable of operating both on rivers and on large bodies of water like the Tsimlyanskaya Reservoir, where waves up to 3 meters high will be encountered.(5)

Many 800-horsepower diesel ships sleeping 300-350 persons are being built for use on the canal. The first group of such ships will be put in operation in spring 1952. A 2,000-horsepower diesel-electric ship is being built for express service between Moscow and Rostov-na-Donu. This 100-meter-long three-deck ship will attain speeds of up to 25 kilometers per hour. It will accommodate 500 persons for sleeping.(6) Other passenger ships being readied for operation on the Moscow--Rostov-na-Donu route include the steamships Lermontov, A. S. Pushkin, Marksist, Pamyat' Shmeleva, and the diesel ships Stalinskaya Konstitutsiya, Sergey Kirov, Marshal Voroshilov, and Georgiy Sedov.(4)

A list of plants building or re-equipping ships for the new water routes extracted from recent Soviet newspapers follows.

Moscow Shipbuilding and Ship-Repair Plant	Reconditioning ships, including steamships N. A. Nekrasov and Pravda for Volga-Don Canal (7); started construction of 8 diesel ships of "Moskvich" type for Volga-Don Canal (8)
Gor'kiy Ship-Repair Plant imeni Molotov	Readying ships 800 let Moskvyy, Pushkin, Lermontov, Marksist, Pamyat' Shmeleva, for operation on Volga-Don Canal (9)
Gor'kiy "Krasnoye Sormovo" Plant imeni A. A. Zhdanov	Has more than 200 crews working on ships for Volga-Don Canal (10)
Ship-Repair Plant imeni Pamyat' Parizhskoy Kommuny	Preparing passenger ships for operation on Moscow--Rostov-na-Donu route (11)
Chistopol' Ship-Repair Plant	Re-equipping ships for operation on Volga-Don Canal (12)
Shcherbakov (Yaroslavl' Oblast) Ship-Repair Shop	Completed repair of diesel ship Chernigov which will be used on Volga-Don Canal; repairing other ships and barges for the canal (13)
Rostov "Krasnyy Flot" Plant	Preparing new ships for navigation on new Volga-Don canal route (14)
Ship-Repair plants and shops of Volga Freight Ship Line	Preparing tens of freighters for operating on new Volga-Don Canal and greater Volga; reconditioning freighters Marshal Voroshilov, Georgiy Sedov and others to operate under new navigation conditions (15)
Stalingrad Shipyard	Started construction of new type ships for Volga-Don Canal; building passenger ships for Moscow--Rostov-na-Donu route (16)
Astrakhan' shipbuilding plants	Re-equipping 9 diesel ships for operation on Moscow--Rostov-na-Donu route (17)

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Moscow-Volga Canal

Will assign 4 diesel passenger ships of  
"Moskvich" type for Volga-Don Canal (6)

SOURCES

1. Moscow, Trud, 11 Jan 52
2. Moscow, Pravda, 4 Jan 52
3. Moskovskaya Pravda, 8 Dec 51
4. Leningradskaya Pravda, 27 Jan 52
5. Moscow, Trud, 30 Jan 52
6. Moscow, Bloknot Agitatora, No 4, Feb 52
7. Vechernyaya Moskva, 17 Jan 52
8. Moscow, Komsomol'skaya Pravda, 12 Jan 52
9. Ibid., 15 Dec 51
10. Moskovskaya Pravda, 13 Jan 52
11. Moscow, Pravda, 16 Dec 51
12. Leningradskaya Pravda, 11 Jan 52
13. Moscow, Trud, 3 Feb 52
14. Moscow, Komsomol'skaya Pravda, 27 Jan 52
15. Ibid., 30 Dec 51
16. Petrozavodsk, Leninskoye Znamya, 11 Jan 52
17. Moskovskaya Pravda, 27 Sep 51

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